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Exhibit 2.1

Monsanto

LAW DEPARTMENT

Monsanto Company
800 N. Lindbergh Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63167
Phone: (314) 694-1000

July 28, 1994

Via Fax/Mail

Thomas J. Martin
Assistant Regional Counsel
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region V
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

Re: Sauget Area I
Sauget, Illinois - Extension of Time to
Respond to Request for Information

Dear Mr. Martin:

As discussed with Jeffrey B. Gore and yourself on September 27, 1994, the time frames for Monsanto's response for the information request, dated July 13, 1994, on the matter referenced above, have been adjusted. We agreed that an initial response is now due August 24, 1994 on several subject areas, as identified below. The remainder of the response (as well as any supplements to the initial response) will be due ninety (90) days from Monsanto's original receipt on July 18, 1994. Accordingly, the response date is now Monday, October 17, 1994. (While October 16, 1994 is actually the 90th day, it is a Sunday.)

The subject areas, which Monsanto's initial response will address, are as follows:

1. Information on Site G;
2. Information gathered as a result of the Cerro litigation;
3. Information as to other entities which could be potentially responsible parties (PRPs).

Please understand that, by agreeing to provide this initial information, we are not waiving any objections we may have as to these information requests. As we discussed, both the issue of privileged information and the protective order in the Cerro litigation may require further conversations between now and August 24, 1994. I will contact you if such issues are

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identified prior to that date. In the meanwhile, if you have any questions concerning this matter, please call me at 314/694-1278.

Very truly yours,



Stephen P. Krchma
Environmental Counsel

cc: Marsha A. Adams
5HSM-5J
Responsible Party Search Section
U.S. EPA Region V
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

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